FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 245 *19 December 1979*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PLO's Salah Khalaf Interviewed by DER SPIEGEL [17 Dec] A 1
Al-Hassan Interviewed on PLO's Foreign Relations A 7
Arab Flights to Egypt To Stop in February A 7
[London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT AL-USBU'IYAH 16 Dec]

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Oil Price To Increase at Least $6 per Barrel [GULF DAILY NEWS 18 Dec] C 1
Amir Inaugurates Associated Gas Project [GULF DAILY NEWS 18 Dec] C 1

KUWAIT

Papers on OPEC Disputes, U.S. Bases in Gulf C 2
AL-QABAS Says Anti-U.S. Demonstrators To Be Tried C 2
Interior Minister Calls for Increased Cooperation in Gulf C 2

QATAR

Minister of State Receives Iranian Ambassador to Kuwait C 3

SAUDI ARABIA

U.S. Press Reports on Military Facilities Denied C 3
Riyadh Radio on Goal of Caracas OPEC Meeting C 3
Reported Fall in Foreign Currency Reserves Denied C 4

YAR

PDRY Envoy Arrives in San'a' With Message for Salih C 4
Received by Makki C 5
Palestinian Delegation Leaves San'a' for Aden C 5

EGYPT

Israeli Delegation to Autonomy Talks Arrives in Cairo D 1
Ghali on Talks D 1
Ghali on Embassy Question D 1
Seventh Session Opens D 1
Defense Minister Reports on Armed Forces Takeover in Sinai D 2
Report to National Security Committee D 3
As-Sadat Addresses Scientific Research Academy Conference D 3
Romanian Minister of State Arrives in Cairo D 4
Mubarak Receives Message for As-Sadat From CAR President D 4

IRAQ

Envoy Views Ties With Iran, U.S. Designs on Arab Oil [AL-WATAN 16 Dec] E 1
Kuwaiti Paper Reports Iraqi Warning of U.S. Land Invasion E 1
Mozambique's Machel Signs Cooperation Agreement E 2
Joint Statement E 3
Husayn Receives Message From YAR's Salih E 5
Tanzania's Nyerere Arrives in Baghdad on Official Visit E 5

JORDAN

AL-AKHBAR Criticizes Pentagon's Move in Gulf, Indian Ocean [19 Dec] F 1
Information Minister Receives Palestinian Delegation F 1

LEBANON

Reaction to Arrival of Iranian Volunteers Reported G 1
Major Haddad Reacts G 1
Training at Ad-Damur G 1
UN Spokesman Cited [VOL] G 1
VOL Report G 2
Sham'un Comments G 2
Voice of Hope on Arrival G 3
Israeli Planes Reconnoiter Palestinian Positions [VOL] G 3
Haddad's Forces Shell Hasbayya in South [VOL] G 3

SYRIA

Damascus Reports on Syrian-Bulgarian Joint Statement H 1
Commentary on Israeli Cabinet Debate of Syrian Stand H 1
PDRY Party Delegation Arrives in Damascus 14 Dec H 2
Delegation Departs H 2

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Paper Warns Against 'Internationalizing' Sahara Conflict I 1
[EL MOUDJAHID 11 Dec]
Bendjedid Receives Iraqi President's Special Envoy I 2
[EL MOUDJAHID 11 Dec]

LIBYA

Iranian Central Bank Official Leaves Tripoli I 2

ISRAEL

Autonomy Delegation Departs; Burg Interviewed N 1
Ghali Requests Liaison Offices in Territories N 1
West Bankers Reject Idea N 2
Request for Consulate in Alexandria Turned Down N 2
Likud Loses One Member, Gains Another N 2
Extreme West Bank Mayors Contact PLO Headquarters N 3
West Bank Women Request Urgent UN Security Council Meeting N 3
Haddad on Deployment of Iranian Terrorists in Lebanon N 3
More Iranians En Route N 3

IRAN

[For material on Iran normally appearing in this DAILY REPORT see the supplement to the 19 December Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT, No 245, Supplement 043]

SOUTH ASIA

BANGLADESH

Dacca Daily on U.S.-Iran Hostage Crisis S 1

INDIA

Mrs Gandhi Raps Country's Foreign Policy S 1
Charan Singh Rules Out Coalition With Congress-I S 2
Official Says Free, Fair Elections Not Possible in Assam S 2
AFP: Rival Factions on Congress-I Clash in Calcutta S 2
'Miscreants' Stone Jagjivan Ram's Helicopter in Uttar Pradesh S 3

PAKISTAN

Presidential Ordinance Prohibits Defamatory Publications S 3
Agha Shahi To Visit Kabul 22 Dec S 3
Students Demand Removal of Sind University Official S 3

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene, Premadasa Address Ruling Party Session S 4

PLO'S SALAH KHALAF INTERVIEWED BY DER SPIEGEL

DW181035 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 17 Dec 79 pp 26-29 DW

[Interview by SPIEGEL editor Paul Lersch and SPIEGEL associate Adel S. Elias with PLO security chief Abu Iyad in Beirut]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Abu Iyad, you have become known in Germany because an attempt has allegedly been made to murder you. The Israeli intelligence service was said to have tried in a Bavarian prison to blackmail the Palestinian Mohammed Yussef to carry out that mission. The PLO version says that he committed suicide after his release. A propaganda story against Israel?

Abu Iyad: One can make propaganda with all kinds of things. It is a fact, however, that an attempt has been made to kill me. We have to deal with such things daily.

SPIEGEL: Why was Yussef, of all persons, given the alleged mission to murder you?

Abu Iyad: Mohammed Yussef was my permanent companion, but he was not a normal companion. He was like a son to me. From 1974 through 1977 I usually spent the night in his apartments. When he admitted to the Israelis that he was my confidant they kept their eyes on him permanently. He told me how they blackmailed him to take over the mission to murder me. They said: "Either you kill him, or we will kill your family and rape your sisters."

SPIEGEL: Why did Yussef kill himself as you claimed he did?

Abu Iyad: He was a man whose nose touched the skies, as one can put it so nicely in Arabic. But when he returned he was broken. I think he killed himself because he had failed with regard to his mission and because he was even commissioned to carry out a murder. He felt humiliated. He tried three times to commit suicide in prison.

SPIEGEL: German authorities doubt that entire version. Maybe you suspected Yussef of cooperation with the Israelis so that as a result he had to die?

Abu Iyad: Why did the German charge d'affaires come to us right after the death of Yussef in order to calm us down? Our people were most irritated, swearing to take revenge. The Federal Republic sent us its profound condolence in connection with the death of Yussef. The charge d'affaires showed my aide Shafik al-Hut an official telegram. He read the deciphered text with the request to pass the message on to me. You know, I find it impertinent that German authorities exploited our keeping quiet propagandistically against us.

SPIEGEL: What did Yussef actually want to do in the Federal Republic?

Abu Iyad: He did not have the task of taking any action in Germany or in a European country. Our plan is unambiguous: We must bring arms to our resistance fighters in the occupied areas. We have picked some men here to carry out that mission. Naturally I am responsible for that. Why should I not say so? I can also say that it was Mohammed Yussef's main task to bring arms and bombs to another country, but not to Germany.

SPIEGEL: To what country?

Abu Iyad: I do not want to name that country.

The action envisaged the loading of arms and bombs at a certain place on a ship that would go to Israel. He was not supposed to travel with the arms on the same ship. He was supposed to establish arms depots for further actions.

SPIEGEL: In Germany?

Abu Iyad: No, no, in a European country. Another group that was caught in Berlin had the mission to store arms in Berlin. But that group belongs to another apparatus with which Yussef had nothing to do.

SPIEGEL: And these arms and bombs were supposed to be used for blowing up a fuel depot depot in West Berlin and an El Al plane as well as for murdering the chairman of the Jewish community in Berlin, as the authorities found out?

Abu Iyad: Not so fast, go slow. I will tell everything frankly. I admit that the Berlin group trapped in Berlin had a Palestinian go-between named Hassan el-Harti. That man was the agent of the Israeli intelligence service. A special camera was built into his apartment which took pictures of every visitor. When he learned that the group had the mission of storing arms of such quantities, he assumed that this group would carry out a great action.

SPIEGEL: That was probably discussed in the group.

Abu Iyad: It fell for a trick. Hassan offered his help to the group. He suggested making a tour through Berlin by car in order to find out exactly where the arms could be stored. Throughout that tour they were shadowed by the Israeli secret service. He showed them the fuel depots in Berlin. Maybe the boys said at his home in a fury: If the German authorities will not eventually stop the influx of Palestinian immigrants, something will happen at some time.

SPIEGEL: German authorities have the impression that the Berlin group wanted to take revenge for the murdering of Hassan Salameh early that year in Beirut. That murder had been prepared from Germany.

Abu Iyad: I repeat, they were not supposed to take any actions in Germany. But that does not mean that something like that will be ruled out in the future if nothing is done against the stream of Palestinians asking for asylum.

SPIEGEL: What is the Federal Republic supposed to do?

Abu Iyad: It ought to revoke or change the regulations for people asking for asylum.

SPIEGEL: You know that our constitution offers protection to everybody asking for political asylum in the Federal Republic.

Abu Iyad: Just a moment. What you are telling me here is nothing new. Every state that thinks highly of itself and that exerts its sovereignty in an umlimited way has such laws. The Germans are not the first pioneers in that field. I am irritated by the Federal Government's handling of that bill. If a Palestinian wants to leave the PLO for some reason or other and asks for asylum in the Federal Republic, his request will be quickly fulfilled, and then 8 years or more will pass until the courts decide finally whether his application for asylum will be accepted or rejected.

SPIEGEL: Everybody has the right to orderly legal procedures.

Abu Iyad: I am just asking: What happens to a Palestinian in that long a time. What does he live on? Who will pay for his life? German authorities, naturally. I ask myself why this generosity?

SPIEGEL: What interest should the Federal Government have in prolonging asylum proceedings?

Abu Iyad: I do not believe either that Germany is interested in it. Many responsible people tell us: "Excuse me, but we cannot do anything about it." It seems to me, permit me to say so, that Germany is still occupied and not in a position to carry out its full sovereignty. I think that no other state in the world would accept something like that.

SPIEGEL: What do you mean by that?

Abu Iyad: I can tell you what. The Israeli intelligence service and the CIA carry out their activities in the Federal Republic without the Federal Government being able to do anything against it. Every Palestinian filing an application for political asylum in Germany will be questioned by the CIA and the Israeli intelligence service on German territory. Write it down literally: I am asking the Federal Government to make an end to that situation and to carry out its sovereignty again. Your government must do something.

SPIEGEL: What do you think ought to be done?

Abu Iyad: I insist that the Federal Government handle its laws correctly. I demand that activities of Israeli and other secret services be banned on German territory. After the long time of waiting for asylum, many of our people have been recruited as agents either by the American or the Israeli secret services, or they have been spiritually crippled because they have become victims of either hashish or heroin.

SPIEGEL: Do you have evidence?

Abu Iyad: We managed to infiltrate many of our people as persons asking for asylum. We obtain far-reaching information from these people. Some of them are still in Germany, some of them have returned. We will infiltrate more.

SPIEGEL: Will you become active again if the Federal Government does not do anything?

Abu Iyad: We do not send people with arms and bombs. Many Palestinian patriots are disappointed, they are full of fury and bitterness. In the future there will be further arms and bombs if the policy of the Federal Government remains as it is now.

SPIEGEL: The federal minister of the interior cites the standstill [stillstand] agreement with the PLO. Do you plan not to adhere any more to that agreement?

Abu Iyad: It seems to me that the German authorities claim that so-called standstill agreement just for themselves.

SPIEGEL: Does it mean that the PLO will terminate it if the Federal Government does not change its asylum policy?

Abu Iyad: I am not threatening and I am not warning. I just point out to the Federal Government that this policy does not consider the interests of the Palestinian people. A short time ago I caught three Palestinians who were trading in people. They were really trading in Palestinians. These Mafiosi promised the boys that better chances to live exist in Germany and that they will be taken care of there at the expense of the government. These Mafiosi give them free tickets to East Berlin; it is explained to them clearly what elevated train they must take in order to meet contact people. They escort them immediately to certain lawyers in West Berlin where they make an application for political asylum. Then they are brought to a camp and the Federal Government takes care of them from the social insurance fund. The slave-traders in Beirut and Berlin cash in a certain amount per capita.

SPIEGEL: The federal minister of the interior relies on the fact that the PLO will not extend any aid to German terrorists. Has such a promise been given?

Abu Iyad: I did not promise your interior minister anything. Nor do I know why something like this is claimed.

SPIEGEL: Perhaps PLO chief 'Arafat promised something like that.

Abu Iyad: 'Arafat did not either.

SPIEGEL: So we may proceed from the premise that the PLO will continue supporting German terrorists?

Abu Iyad: Where do you get this bright idea? This is what you assume, but not the truth. I know nothing of any accords with your interior minister nor do I intend to support German terrorists. You keep asking about terrorists. Tell me, is what happens with Palestinians in West Berlin and West Germany not terrorism against us Palestinians? Or do you have a different interpretation of terrorism?

SPIEGEL: Naturally we understand something different by that. Asylum has nothing whatsoever to do with terror. You regard your people as freedom fighters; for us they are terrorists when they throw bombs.

Abu Iyad: Understand and interpret terrorism just as you please, I could not care less. Someday the Germans will awaken, I hope it will not be too late, and they will see our struggle in the proper light.

SPIEGEL: Are you prepared to help in the search for German terrorists?

Abu Iyad: Just tell me why I should help the Federal Government, really?

SPIEGEL: Perhaps the Federal Government can offer you something in return.

Abu Iyad: What, I sure would like to know.

SPIEGEL: The desired upgrading and recognition of the PLO.

Abu Iyad: I can do without such recognition if I have to play policeman for the Federal Republic as a return service. To whom are you telling such fairy tales that the Federal Government needs my support, of all people? After all, you have the famous BND [Federal Intelligence Service] which cooperates with the CIA, INTERPOL and the Israeli intelligence service.

Your police apparatus is perfect and powerful enough; so why do you need me, really?

SPIEGEL: Because German terrorists might be living in your territory.

Abu Iyad: This is not true. Where do you get that, anyway? There is not a single German terrorist in the area we can control.

SPIEGEL: But perhaps in Iraq or in Yemen?

Abu Iyad: Am I almighty that I would know what is going on everywhere? I can assure you honestly that I have not run into a single German terrorist in all my life.

SPIEGEL: Has the PLO given up its international terror actions and is it active merely in Israel and in the occupied terrirotires

Abu Iyad: Nearly every liberation movement must resort to such actions in the beginning in order to hold its own. After the broad international recognition of the PLO, however, it is absurd to venture such actions. The PLO no longer needs to carry them out, they would even be harmful.

SPIEGEL: Abu Iyad, in your book "Homeland or Death" you yourself concede that basically no Arab country wants the establishment of a Palestinian state. You said: "We are fighting alone, very much alone."

Abu Iyad: That is correct. For anyone wanting to help us found a state would, after all, not put obstalces in our way. Yet some Arab regimes have often tried to destroy us. They are stingy with their assistance to our fighters even though life has become terribly expensive and even though some Arab states are veritably suffocating in their wealth.

SPIEGEL: You fought against Jordanian King Husayn and against Syrian President al-Asad. The PLO is quarreling with all Arab states, especially with Lebanon where it has set up a state within the state. And just now there is trouble again with your best ally, Libyan revolution leader Al-Qadhdhafi.

Abu Iyad: Each event you mentioned here has a cause of its own. But I want to say something only concerning Al-Qadhdhafi. We have had a long history of quarrels with Al-Qadhdhafi since 1975. I was with him at the time. Al-Qadhdhafi advocated the view that a Palestinian leader may move only when he orders him to. He may not even comb his hair unless his nibs the colonel allows him to. He always wants us to tow his line fully. We must be the friends of his friends and the foes of his foes.

SPIEGEL: Al-Qadhdhafi thinks the PLO has lost its revolutionary zeal.

Abu Iyad: What he wants is a paid revolution, and he treats us like paid mercenaries. He never abided by the decisions made at the different Arab summit conferences to give us financial support. He is moody. If you do not satisfy him you get a kick. He owes us contributions in the amount of between $80 and $90 million. Yet we are not prepared to submit to any Arab capital. This is, in short, our story with Prince al-Qadhdhafi.

SPIEGEL: This prince likens the PLO to a house full of hens without a rooster.

Abu Iyad: Him playing the rooster would be all we need, to be sure. After all, he ought to keep in mind what difficult tasks the rooster has to fulfill, and I do not think that he can still measure up to that. The boy should mind his own business.

SPIEGEL: The PLO must show revolutionary deeds at long last, Al-Qadhdhafi demands, for example: Block the Suez Canal and blast the oilfields.

Abu Iyad: I would like to report to you about something that I mention here for the first time in public. During a joint meeting in 1975 I was together with Yasir 'Arafat and Al-Qadhdhafi. Al-Qadhdhafi told us: "If I were to put myself into the shoes of the Palestinian resistance movement I would have set the whole world aflame within 6 months. I replied that if it is so easy I would suggest this: You take our place in the leadership of the resistance movement and we will take over your place in Libya. We will see each other again 6 months from now and compare notes as to what each has accomplished.

SPIEGEL: What did he say in reply?

Abu Iyad: He laughed like mad. I am now replying to Al-Qadhdhafi via SPIEGEL: First, it is not our mission to take charge of the tasks of all Arabs. We have plenty of tasks under whose weight we nearly collapse. He should give us part of his oil proceeds, then I can fight all my enemies. Second, if Al-Qadhdhafi has a long arm as he claims, then he should go ahead and block the Suez Canal himself and blast the oilfields. Al-Qadhdhafi is the modern Don Quixote who fights windmills.

SPIEGEL: You also have problems with Iran's Khomeyni. In the beginning the PLO wanted to mediate between Iran and the United States. Then you declared your solidarity with the Iranian Revolution. Do you deem the kidnaping of the diplomats correct.

Abu Iyad: We welcome the Iranian Revolution because it has eliminated the nightmare, the shah, and liquidated his influence and power in the Arabian Gulf and Saudi Arabia. But as far as the taking of hostages in the American Embassy is concerned, this is a secondary matter which has nothing to do with the revolution. We did not offer our good offices as mediators but sent a representative because we wanted to find out what was going on in Iran. I can understand the Iranians if they want to have the shah back at all cost.

SPIEGEL: Iranian volunteers want to march into southern Lebanon to fight against Israel at the side of the PLO--an open invitation to Israel to launch a new invasion in Lebanon.

Abu Iyad: We have not called for any volunteers either from Iran or from any other country. Ask the Iranians and not us. Besides, there is a government here in the country. We are not authorized to expel people from the country to let people into the country.

SPIEGEL: Hence, the PLO does not want any Iranians in Lebanon?

Abu Iyad: I did not say that I am against it. If anybody tells me: I would like to help you against the Zionists, then I will not say no.

SPIEGEL: Abu Iyad, you write in your book that only the next generation will live to see a Palestinian state. This sounds very pessimistic.

Abu Iyad: Why is it pessimism if you tell the truth? On the contrary, this is great optimism. He is an optimist who is a realist. I am a realist, and I know that the struggle will not be easy. But I will fight for a long time, until my children enjoy the victory.

SPIEGEL: Abu Iyad, thank you for this interview.

AL-HASSAN INTERVIEWED ON PLO'S FOREIGN RELATIONS

LD181422 Rabat MAP in English 1233 GMT 18 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, 18 Dec, (MAP)--Khalid al-Hassan, member of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and head of the Foreign Relations Department at the Palestinian National Council, who participated here in the colloquy on "Zionist strategy in the Middle East", which was organized by the Moroccan association "Pensee et Dialogue" (thought and dialogue), examined in an interview with the Istiqlal Party's daily (in Arabic) AL-'ALAM, the PLO's foreign relations.

Al-Hassan stated that "we have no divergencies with the Gulf countries." "However," he added, "the PLO's relations with Lebanon are confused and bearing tension."

Regarding the Iranian volunteers to Lebanon, the PLO official precised that "the problem arose consequently to a decision made by Ayatollah Khalkhali, without any preliminary agreement." "This decision," he went on, "had no effect on the mutual relations."

Dealing with Europe's stance toward the PLO, he described the latest changes as slightly important.

Al-Hassan also deplored "the Arab lack of coherence and the difficulty to match their economic attitude with their political position in their relations with the Western world, mainly Europe, the United States and Japan."

To conclude, Al-Hassan indicated that "oil was not the sole solution." "There is also the Suez Canal, consumption markets, the strategic financial surplus, the agricultural potentialities, and many other means that can have prominent parts, if exploited," he precised.

ARAB FLIGHTS TO EGYPT TO STOP IN FEBRUARY

LD181511 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT AL-USBU'IYAH in Arabic 16 Dec 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report]

[Text] Arab diplomatic sources have affirmed to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT AL-USBU'IYAH that the secret resolutions adopted by the 10th Arab summit in Tunis include a resolution providing for an air boycott of Egypt and for stopping all Arab flights to and from Cairo immediately after the Israeli ambassador arrives in Cairo in February.

The sources said that many of the Arab countries will implement the resolution, although every country has been given the freedom to implement the resolution according to its own circumstances.

BAHRAIN

OIL PRICE TO INCREASE AT LEAST $6 PER BARREL

GF181200 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 18 Dec 79 p 1 GF

[Text] Bahrain will raise the price of its crude oil by at least six dollars a barrel, but will wait for the outcome of the OPEC ministerial conference which opened yesterday in Caracas before applying the new increase, officials said. The pricing of oil is one of the main issues before oil ministers from the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in the Venezuelan capital this week. Bahrain is not an OPEC member. Bahrain Industry Ministry officials said that, although the Gulf island generally followed other producers in the region, the government felt it should await the result of the OPEC conference. "But a six dollar increase a barrel goes without saying," one official said.

In a surprise, pre-conference move last week OPEC members Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Qatar announced a six dollar a barrel increase in the price of all their grades of crude oil. Saudi Arabia and the UAE said the increase was backdated to November 1, but Qatar has not yet confirmed any timing for the rise. Bahrain currently charges 21.54 dollars a barrel for its medium grade crude. This is 31 cents less than the Kuwaiti price for a barrel of its heavy crude.

Kuwait did not join in the move by Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Qatar. It is thought Kuwait wanted to see whether the Caracas conference would set a price level higher than the one which Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the UAE have apparently tried to fix for 1980.

AMIR INAUGURATES ASSOCIATED GAS PROJECT

GF181201 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 18 Dec 79 p 5 GF

[By Bill Rylance]

[Text] The amir of Bahrain, H.H. Shaykh 'Isa ibn Sulman Al Khalifah, yesterday opened Bahrain's associated gas project at Jebel Al Dukhan. The project, which took 20 months to complete, cost $95 million and was mainly financed by major banks operating in Bahrain.

At the opening ceremony, Mr Hasan Fakhru, board chairman of the Associated Gas Company and general manager of BANOCO, said the latest changes in the world oil market indicate that the project will make about $70 million net profit in the first year. Mr Fakhru said the project should regain its capital in 18 months. The plant has a production capacity of 976,000 barrels of propane a year and a work force of 105, of which 65 are Bahraini, he added.

Bahrain's minister of development and industry, Mr Yusuf ash-Shirawi, said that the project was approved after prices "reached a reasonable and legitimate level which would be profitable to Bahrain!"

"It is fitting that the project was opened to coincide with the recently obtained full ownership of oil resources by the government, and the national day celebrations in Bahrain."

Mr ash-Shirawi added that the project was possible due to the help of neighbouring Gulf states. Bahrain currently produces 100 million cubic feet per day of rich associated gas which was previously vented into the atmosphere. Substantial quantities of propane, butane and naphtha will be extracted from this gas and marketed.

KUWAIT

PAPERS ON OPEC DISPUTES, U.S. BASES IN GULF

LD191008 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0713 GMT 19 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--a local paper today says that the existing disputes at the OPEC conference in Caracas have a political background. AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM points out that the Arab division has been transferred to the Caracas conference. It explains that the political background that led to this division is almost the same background which worked at destroying the basis of real Arab cooperation in all spheres. It says that one of these disputes concerns adopting a stand that would upset the United States at a time when it is endeavoring to stifle Arab hopes and aspirations. It goes on to say that whenever it sees something upsetting, the United States tries to stifle the source of that upset by various military, economic, political and human weapons. It warns that Washington will work to destroy OPEC, which the paper says is the only united Arab front that has not yet been torn apart. AL-ANBA' comments on the tour of the American military mission searching for bases for its forces in the region. It compares the tour of the American mission and the deposed Iranian Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi's for search for refuge.

It points out that the United States has found itself unable to take any hostile step against Iran, not because it is not incapable of that but because most nations are not in favor of force. It explains that although Washington has found a refuge for the shah in Panama, it will not find anyone in the Gulf or the Arabian Peninsula who would sell their freedom, sovereignty and independence. It says that the Arabs reject any American bases on their land. It stresses that Washington would be mistaken if it imagined that the protection of its interests would be provided by the existence of military bases. It goes on to say that the only guarantee for American interests is for the United States to abandon its surrender to Israel and to be aware of the meaning of national honor and national subjugation.

AL-QABAS SAYS ANTI-U.S. DEMONSTRATORS TO BE TRIED

LD181133 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0742 GMT 18 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--AL-QABAS today says that Kuwaiti authorities have completed interrogation of 17 persons apprehended following an anti-U.S. demonstration which took place here at the end of last month. The paper adds, in a report which it does not attribute to any source, that those apprehended, whose nationalities were not mentioned, have been accused "of breaking the law and violating regulations governing public meetings and gatherings." These regulations ban any meeting or march or public demonstration without advance permission. AL-QABAS expects that the defendants will go to court shortly in the first case of its kind to be considered by the Kuwaiti judiciary since promulgation of the law. The demonstration, which took place on 30 November, was organized in support of Iran in its present dispute with the United States.

INTERIOR MINISTER CALLS FOR INCREASED COOPERATION IN GULF

LD181102 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0713 GMT 18 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--In a press statement today, Kuwaiti Interior Minister Shaykh Nawaf al-Ahmad as-Sabah called on the Arab Gulf countries to cooperate and further coordinate their activities in various fields, especially security. In a statement published by AL-QABAS, he says the present conditions in the Gulf region require an exchange of visits and meetings among officials to increase cooperation and coordination.

He added that contacts are currently taking place among the capitals of the region in order to "draw up a practical program for security coordination and cooperation."

Shaykh Nawaf says the interior ministers of the Arab Gulf countries shortly intend to hold a meeting to strengthen cooperation among the countries of the region. However, he has not specified the venue or the time of the meeting.

QATAR

MINISTER OF STATE RECEIVES IRANIAN AMBASSADOR TO KUWAIT

JN181206 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1145 GMT 18 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Doha, 18 December--Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, received here today Iranian Ambassador to Kuwait Dr 'Ali Shams Ardakani, who is currently visiting Qatar. The discussion during the meeting, which was attended by the Iranian charge d'affaires in Doha, revolved around issues of mutual concern.

SAUDI ARABIA

U.S. PRESS REPORTS ON MILITARY FACILITIES DENIED

LD181810 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1745 GMT 18 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--An official source has denied reports by the U.S. Washington POST and New York TIMES that an American delegation will hold talks in the kingdom on the possibility of obtaining facilities for a U.S. force in the Middle East. The same source added that the kingdom's policy in this connection is clear, obvious and declared. He added that this report is completely fabricated and without foundation.

RIYADH RADIO ON GOAL OF CARACAS OPEC MEETING

LD172352 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Dec 79 LD

[Ahmed Hariri commentary]

[Text] The OPEC meetings began today in Caracas to discuss the future of oil prices, to agree on a unified price and to find ways to end the companies' [as heard] exploitation of the world market situation.

The Caracas meetings assume great significance because the future of world oil prices for the forthcoming period depends on the results of the meetings. It seems that the member states may agree on a small increase, which may not exceed $24 per barrel. However, the topic that appears to be more pressing is ending the wide margins between oil prices in the world market, the direct results of which has been the exploitation of the situation and the manipulation of prices by the marketing companies in order to gain astronomical profits at the expense of the consumer. This has caused disturbances in the oil market and has resulted in the mistaken notion of the consumer that the producing countries are responsible for high prices. The facts are contrary to this.

The world companies have exploited the situation, gaining astronomical profits at the expense of both the producer and the consumer. It is abundantly clear that the producing countries, led by Saudi Arabia, have been very eager to adopt moderate stands which help the international community to avoid the difficulties of high oil prices.

The producing countries are part of the human community, and they influence and are influenced by economic changes, upwards or downwards. The world economy is presently suffering from these changes. This requires that the responsibility be shared between the producing countries and the industrial countries, which consume more oil. Observers believe that the decisive factor in resolving the differences between oil prices lies in the adoption of a unified stand by the producing countries. This, it seems, is what the Caracas meeting is trying to achieve.

There remains one significant factor, namely the role of the consumer countries in reducing their consumption and in putting an end to the marketing companies that exploit the state of oil markets. It is clear that the industrial countries, which consume more oil, unfortunately have not adopted measures which would indicate their serious intention of effectively reducing consumption. What has been done in that sphere so far does not constitute a practical measure. On the contrary, it has deepened the confusion of the normal consumer toward the producing countries and their responsibility for oil shortages and high prices. At the present time, there is no effective cooperation between the producing and consuming countries. This is what the producing countries, led by Saudi Arabia, are working to bring about.

REPORTED FALL IN FOREIGN CURRENCY RESERVES DENIED

LD181718 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1605 GMT 18 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--The Ministry of Finance and National Economy has refuted reports in some foreign newspapers on the fall in the official foreign currency reserves of the kingdom during the period from the end of 1977 to September 1979. A statement in this connection by the ministry describes the reports as misleading. This is the text of the statement:

Some foreign newspapers have carried false reports alleging that a sharp fall of approximately $13 billion in official foreign currency reserves occurred in the kingdom during the period from the end of 1977 to September 1979. This figure is totally misleading in view of the fact that the reorganization of IMF statistics has resulted in a transfer in the financial cover from one category [ar fi'ah] of the schedule to another. This resulted in a sudden fall in the reserve figures, which was entered in Article No 1 of the schedule as approximately $7 billion, according to the IMF bulletin.

The true figures represent the total assets of the Saudi Arabian monetary establishment. These assets actually fell by only approximately $3 billion during the same period. Such a fall is quite normal, especially since the increase in the country's economic activities resulting from the rapid and great growth in development expenditure has led to a substantial increase in the volume of the state's imports and of other aspects of foreign currency expenditures.

YAR

PDRY ENVOY ARRIVES IN SAN'A' WITH MESSAGE FOR SALIH

JN181313 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Brother 'Abdallah Mirghani, secretary of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council in the southern part of the homeland, arrived in San'a' this morning. In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY upon his arrival, Brother 'Abdallah said he had a verbal message for Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, from Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, president of the southern part of the homeland, dealing with current developments.

The message comes within the framework of mutual consultations between the two political leaders to achieve unity.

Brother 'Abdallah said that during this visit he will also convey a written message to Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for foreign affairs and foreign minister, from his brother Salim Salih Muhammad, foreign minister in the southern part of the homeland, on coordinating the stands of both parts of Yemen on Arab and international politics.

Received by Makki

JN181314 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for foreign affairs and foreign minister, received today Brother 'Abdallah Mirghani, secretary of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council in the southern part of the homeland, who conveyed a written message from brother Salim Salih Muhammad, foreign minister in the southern part of the homeland.

PALESTINIAN DELEGATION LEAVES SAN'A' FOR ADEN

JN170958 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 17 Dec 79 JN

[Text] San'a', 17 December--Col Mahmud Ahmad Da'as, member of the Fatah Revolutionary Council and the Palestinian Higher Military Council, and the delegation accompanying him left San'a' for Aden following a 5-day visit to the YAR.

While in San'a', Colonel Da'as conveyed a written message to YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih from Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman. The message dealt with the current Arab situation and the Palestinian issue.

The Palestinian envoy is carrying a similar message to the PDRY leader.

ISRAELI DELEGATION TO AUTONOMY TALKS ARRIVES IN CAIRO

NC181420 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1408 GMT 18 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 December--The Israeli delegation to the discussions on autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza arrived in Cairo today. The delegation is led by Interior Minister Josef Burg.

In a statement made on his arrival, Burg expressed the hope that the new round in the discussions will lead to progress in the right direction. Burg and the Israeli delegation were welcomed on arrival by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

Ghali on Talks

NC181613 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Brutus Ghali has stated that the seventh round of the Palestinian autonomy talks, which will be held in Al-Jizah tomorrow, is tantamount to a preparation for the summit meeting President as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Begin will hold in Aswan on 7 January.

Ghali added that the two subcommittees have submitted reports on the question of the elections and the powers of the autonomy authorities and that these proposals will be discussed at the meeting of the general committee tomorrow. He further said that Egypt has made proposals aimed at overcoming the obstacles to the negotiations.

Dr Butrus Ghali explained that Egypt seeks a comprehensive peace; it does not pay attention only to Sinai but also concerns itself with the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Arab Jerusalem and all the occupied Arab territories.

Ghali on Embassy Question

NC182008 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1945 GMT 18 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 December--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has said that his discussions tonight with the Israeli delegation concerned the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel, the idea of opening an Egyptian Embassy in Tel Aviv and an Israeli Embassy in Cairo and practical aspects of this subject.

He said that Egypt will open a consulate on the premises of its embassy in Tel Aviv. That is, Egypt will have one consulate in Israel on the embassy premises and the same thing will apply to Israel in Egypt.

Seventh Session Opens

NC191044 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0900 GMT 19 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 19 December--The seventh session of negotiations on autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza began at 1000 today. The Egyptian side is led by Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil. It includes Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs; Ambassador 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif, head of the Egyptian side on the functions committee; Ambassador Mamduh 'Abd ar-Raziq, head of the Egyptian side on the elections committee; and advisers Sayyid al-Marsi, Sayyid Abu 'Ali, and Mahmud Farghal. The U.S. side is led by Ambassador James Leonard and includes U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Alfred Atherton and some advisers. The Israeli delegation is led by Interior Minister Yosef Burg and includes Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon, Justice Minister Tamir and a number of advisers.

Dr Khalil made a brief speech at the opening of the public session, held at the MENA House Hotel in Al-Jizah. He welcomed the delegation. I believe, he said, that we have all come to this meeting determined to make it successful and fruitful.

Dr Khalil added: The subcommittees have done some extremely fruitful work. We will discuss the date of the next meeting which will be determined in the light of the contacts to be held with Sol Linowitz, head of the U.S. delegation to the negotiations

Yosef Burg also spoke. He said: It is a good sign that we are meeting here at MENA House, 2 years after our first meeting which marked the beginning of the road to peace. He added: I have come to Cairo twice in 1 week. We work for peace. Burg expressed hope that this meeting will move in the right direction to achieve the aspired peace. He also expressed his gratitude for the hospitality accorded to Israeli delegation in Cairo.

Ambassador James Leonard then spoke. He said: I am happy to participate in this meeting and I apologize on behalf of Sol Linowitz, President Carter's representative in the autonomy negotiations, for failing to attend this meeting because of other engagements in Washington. He added that Linowitz was happy with the talks he had with President as-Sadat, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, and also with Dr Mustafa Khalil and Israeli chief negotiator Yosef Burg. Leonard said that Linowitz will attend the next meeting. Linowitz, he said, returned to the United States convinced that progress towards peace is possible. In conclusion, Leonard expressed the hope for progress at this meeting, for the sake of peace.

The negotiations then began in a closed session. The chief delegates will hold a press conference after the discussions.

DEFENSE MINISTER REPORTS ON ARMED FORCES TAKEOVER IN SINAI

NC182002 Cairo MENA in English 1847 GMT 18 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, Dec 18--Defense Minister General Kamal Hasan 'Ali said today that the Egyptian Armed Forces will have the same responsibilities in peacetime as they had in wartime.

Addressing the People's Assembly's Defence and National Security Committee, General 'Ali said the Egyptian Armed Forces have the responsibilities of safeguarding national security along with Arab and African responsibilities.

He added that Egypt has been able to surmount the difficulty of obtaining arms, having received up-to-date arms and equipment from friendly countries within the framework of Egypt's policy of diversifying the sources of its weapons.

About the Egyptian Armed Forces' takeover in Sinai, General 'Ali said: The Egyptian Armed Forces will be stationed in all parts of Sinai in such a way as to provide the proper conditions for fulfilling the effective security of those areas. The arrangements also provide for military capacity to guarantee the defence of the strategic zone of the mountain passes and the zone between those passes and the Suez Canal.

These zones constitute the most vital part of Sinai. By ensuring their security, it will be possible to ensure the effective defence of the Suez Canal and cover the strategic from the east drive [as received] by land, sea and air, thereby enabling the adoption of proper military measures to check any attack along the strategic direction.

General 'Ali said that the Egyptian Armed Forces will develop in accordance with the requirements of the military position created by the Israeli withdrawal. He added that the Egyptian Armed Forces will take part in the rehabilitation of Sinai as well as in the country's development. Already, he added, the armed forces have built a number of roads and bridges and extended the cable and wireless communications.

In conclusion, General 'Ali said peace should be backed up by armed forces capable of doing their duty at the highest standard of efficiency.

Report to National Security Committee

NC18180_ Cairo MENA in Arabic 1705 GMT 18 Dec 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 18 December--Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, the defense and war production minister and commander in chief of the armed forces, told the People's Assembly National Security Committee today that the plan of the War Production Ministry gives absolute priority to the implementation of the heavy weapons and rocket launching materials [al-mawad al-qadhdhifah li as-sawarikh] projects because they are strategic projects. The war production ministry, he added, has made good progress toward implementing the two projects.

The defense minister further said that next year the ministry will begin implementing some stages of the rocket launching materials project and that the creation of these industries in Egypt is considered a great development, as they have until now been restricted to the advanced states. He added that international cooperation with friendly states in the field of war industries has been established in order to compensate for the suspension of the Soviet Union's aid, to make great progress in consolidating the roots of this industry at home and to diversify the sources of weapons.

In his statement the defense minister said that the value of the production targeted for 1980 will be 242.2 million pounds, compared with 203.4 million pounds this year. The defense minister went on to say that investments amounting to 50 million pounds have been secured in the state's general plan and that 11.7 million pounds of this sum have been allocated for replacement and modernization and 38.3 million pounds for the projects which are currently being implemented.

AS-SADAT ADDRESSES SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ACADEMY CONFERENCE

NC181606 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Dec 79 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat addressed a message today to the sixth conference of the Scientific and Technological Research Academy. Vice President Husni Mubarak deputized for the president in opening the conference at the central committee headquarters. He also read the president's message.

In his message the president says: No one deserves to celebrate the day of science and to honor the scientists more than Egypt. Egypt has been the cradle of science and civilization since the dawn of history. Egypt, which was the beacon of science and the destination of scientists in ancient times, has continued to discharge its glorious message after the rise of the sun of Islam, which has consolidated the greatest traditions in giving attention to science and honoring the scientists as well as in establishing a superior society on the basis of science and knowledge.

The president adds: despite the attempts to impose the domination of imperialism and the alliance of successive external forces to subdue the will of Egypt, and despite the wars which drained a major part of its potential, Egypt remained the center of scientific and cultural diffusion in the area. It assumed a great responsibility in developing Arab society on scientific bases and in modernizing production and services systems.

In his message, President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat affirms that the role of science and scientists increases in the era of peace, when the state directs its enormous material and moral resources toward the process of comprehensive construction, which requires unity of efforts of all sons of Egypt so as to place their country at the beginning of a new era and realize the aspirations of the Arab nation to which our noble people belong. This people, he says, have willingly and faithfully accepted a responsibility which does not end by liberating Egyptian territory and reshaping life on it, but goes beyond to liberating the Arab will, defending the sublime strategy of the nation, repulsing all aggressions on its sanctities and establishing its right to progress and development on bases consistent with its heritage and ancient traditions.

The president goes on: these meanings are what prompted Egypt to participate in construction and development projects in every fraternal Arab country and to give priority to these projects, raising them to the standard of domestic building. The Egyptian man will continue to spread science and knowledge in all parts of the great homeland.

In his message, President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat emphasizes that regaining our sacred land in Sinai is a huge historical accomplishment, which places on our shoulders a great responsibility to reconstruct this dear part of Egypt's soil and exploit the natural resources in it in order to serve the aims of comprehensive progress and development. The society of scientists, who take credit for every scientific or cultural rennaissance, must assume the major part of this responsibility.

ROMANIAN MINISTER OF STATE ARRIVES IN CAIRO

NC181600 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1525 GMT 18 Dec 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 December--The Romanian minister of state for industry, (Gheorghe Bebrink), [title and name as received] arrived in Cairo today for a 5-day visit to Egypt. The Romanian minister will hold discussions with officials of the Ministries of Industry, Transport, Communications and Economic Cooperation on ways of bolstering relations between the countries in all fields.

MUBARAK RECEIVES MESSAGE FOR AS-SADAT FROM CAR PRESIDENT

NC191100 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1035 GMT 19 Dec 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 19 December--Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today received Sylvestre Bangui, second deputy prime minister the foreign minister of Central African Republic, who handed him a message from President as-Sadat from CAR president David Dacko.

ENVOY VIEWS TIES WITH IRAN, U.S. DESIGNS ON ARAB OIL

LD181603 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 16 Dec 79 p 13 LD

['Abd al-Muttalib as-Sayrafi's Bahrain dispatch: "The Iraqi Ambassador Tells AL-WATAN: 'We Do Not Approve of the Violation of International Regulations in Relation to the Holding of Hostages in Tehran'"]

[Excerpt] Manama--In an exclusive statement to AL-WATAN, Iraqi Ambassador to Bahrain 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Habbubi [name as published] said the phenomenon of the hostages held at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran is a cover, of which the U.S. administration has tried to take advantage in the present circumstances to increase its military presence in the area, in implementation of U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown's calls earlier this year to occupy the sources of Arab oil in order, according to him, to protect "our American interests."

He added: "Brown's statements were strongly rejected at the time by all the Gulf states, particularly Iraq, which pointed out that the statements showed a definite U.S. desire to attack our oilfields. Our reply was that the Arab oil wells would be set on fire and the flames would devour everyone seeking to attack our oil."

The ambassador added: "Despite the fact that we have a clear stand regarding these policies, we do not approve of the violation of international regulations in relation to the hostages being held at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran."

The ambassador referred to what he described as attacks on the Iraqi diplomatic missions in Iran, particularly in the area of Arabistan, where the Iraqi Consulate was closed completely. He said: "There must be a measure of protection and respect for diplomatic missions. This is a principle that is provided for in international laws and norms and should be respected."

The Iraqi ambassador excluded the possibility of war breaking out between the United States and Iran. He said: "We do not believe that war will take place, and we view what has happened as an extension of previous and current U.S. schemes and of a definite desire to dominate our oil resources."

Regarding his country's relations with Iran, 'Abd ar-Razzaq said: "We must confirm the facts regarding our relations with Iran. Aside from the fact that it is a Muslim and neighboring state, a large Arab population exists in Arabistan. What is more important is that Iran is one of the Gulf states, and what happens to it affects us to a certain extent. Therefore, we generally believe that the United States--the country which covets our national resources--seeks various means to gain effective control of these resources."

Ambassador 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Habbubi concluded his statement to AL-WATAN by saying: "There ought to be clear joint stands regarding the U.S. military presence in the area, because it constitutes a real threat to our nation and our stability, and no other factor can be as important."

KUWAITI PAPER REPORTS IRAQI WARNING OF U.S. LAND INVASION

LD181100 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 18 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait-- A Kuwaiti paper today reports that Iraq has warned the Gulf countries that the United States may land military forces in the region under the pretext of releasing the American hostages being held in Tehran.

AL-QABAS, in a report from Baghdad which it does not attribute to any source, does not name the Gulf countries that have received the Iraqi warning. However, it points out that the warning included a reference [word indistinct] that Washington could land airborne forces on uninhabited islands belonging to some of the Gulf countries which lie in international waters without obtaining their permission.

It was added that Iraq believes that the United States is planning to secure permanent bases for the American fleets in the Gulf, "exploiting" the question of the 50 American hostages who have been held by Iranian students for 6 weeks.

A noticeable tension exists in Iraqi-Iranian relations as a result of Iranian accusations that Iraq is supporting the demands of an Iranian Kurdish minority to secure autonomy for its province.

MOZAMBIQUE'S MACHEL SIGNS COOPERATION AGREEMENT

JN131337 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 13 December--President Saddam Husayn and Mozambican President Samora Moises Machel signed a cooperation agreement between Iraq and Mozambique here today.

In a statement during the signing of the agreement ceremony, President Saddam Husayn said: This agreement lays down firm foundations for the future of the relations of comradeship and joint cooperation between Iraq and Mozambique. He said this agreement alone cannot achieve what we aspire to, but it expresses important issues which are dictated by reason and conscience regarding the relations of struggle between our two countries.

President Saddam Husayn said: In the near future, relations between Iraq and Mozambique will develop and prosper in the service of the struggle of our people and other struggling peoples for liberty and independence.

In a similar statement, the Mozambican president said: The provisions of the agreement we have signed have historical significance, particularly since we are now in the development stage and have chosen the socialist march in construction and development. He added: The other historical significance of this agreement is that Iraq and Mozambique are among the Third World countries that aspire to invest their resources carefully and expand fields of cooperation in order to achieve developed economic and social structures.

The agreement stipulates the formation of a permanent joint committee comprised of several of the two countries' representatives under the chairmanship of a cabinet member to meet alternatively in Baghdad and Maputo annually or whenever the need arises. The committee will also be entrusted with implementing this and other agreements which have either been signed or will be signed between the two countries dealing with any difficulties that might arise in implementing these agreements; submit proposals to the two countries' governments in order to develop and improve economic, trade, scientific and technical relations between the two countries; and view any other matters that might arise in implementing these agreements.

Subcommittees will stem from the joint ministerial committee which will be entrusted with following issues pertaining to the agreements or other aspects of cooperation.

The agreement, which will be valid for the next 5 years, also stipulates that all suggestions and directives issued by the joint ministerial committee will be implemented following approval by the governments of both countries.

The agreement includes expanding and bolstering relations of friendship and solidarity, developing, promoting and expanding economic, financial, trade, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation between the Iraqi and the Mozambican peoples, and consulting regularly on political, economic, social and cultural international issues and issues relating to bilateral relations.

Joint Statement

JN131620 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 13 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 13 December--Iraq and Mozambique have strongly condemned the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, which are supported by the United States.

In a joint statement released in Baghdad today at the end of the visit to Iraq of Mozambican President Samora Moises Machel, the two sides assert that these accords and the treaty constitute "a conspiracy against the Arab people's interests and an attempt to split the Arab ranks and perpetuate the Zionist occupation of the Arab territories."

The Iraqi side praised Mozambique's achievements in developing its economy and in bringing about social changes on socialist bases, its consistent policy in support of liberation movements--especially in southern Africa--and its courageous stand in closing its borders with the illegal racist minority regime in Southern Rhodesia, thus making a major contribution to supporting the Zimbabwean people's struggle to win their legitimate rights.

The two sides expressed satisfaction over the growth and development of their relations. They agreed to develop these relations toward the ideal state of bilateral relations based on sovereignty and noninterference in internal affairs.

Iraq asserted the Iraqi foreign development fund's readiness to carry out economic feasibility studies on the development projects proposed by the Mozambique side so that the fund can contribute toward financing these projects within the limits of the fund's rules, binding plans and financial capability.

The joint statement says that President Saddam Husayn and Samora Machel have similar views on the major international issues they discussed, particularly the struggle for liberation and the unity of the nonalined movement. The two sides believe that the building of "socialism in Iraq and Mozambique is a positive contribution to international peace and security."

The statement expresses the two sides' satisfaction over the escalation of the people's struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, fascism, racism and Zionism. The statement says the two sides believe the sixth nonalined conference of heads of state and government "has achieved fruitful results regarding the consolidation of the goals of peace, progress and freedom, and affirm their full support for the movement's current chairman."

The two sides asserted that the sixth nonalined summit conference has resulted in strengthening the character of the movement against imperialism, colonialism, racism, racial segregation and Zionism, which will lead to a greater unity in the struggle against exploiting and hegemonic regimes.

The two sides affirmed their full support for the United Nations and the basic principles of the UN Charter, including the principles of noninterference in the internal affairs of other states, elimination of the threat to use force and the use of force in international relations, and respect for the right of self-determination, the independence of peoples, and equality and sovereignty among states.

The two sides viewed the nonalined movement's important role and reaffirmed their strong determination to implement the resolutions of the sixth nonalined summit conference held in Havana and their determination to try to defend the movement's unity and basic principles and consolidate its role and effectiveness in establishing a new international order.

The statement says the two sides discussed the Arab situation, strongly denounced the racist Zionist aggression against the Arab nation and stressed that a just and lasting peace cannot be achieved without the complete and unconditional withdrawal of the Zionist forces from all the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and without the Palestinian Arab people's retrieval of their full rights in their homeland--Palestine--and their establishment of an independent and sovereign state in Palestine.

The two sides assessed the situation in southern Africa and considered the racist Pretoria regime to be a base for racist control in Namibia and Zimbabwe and for aggression against sovereign countries in the area. They denounced the military, economic and financial assistance which imperialist forces are providing Pretoria and Salisbury to enable them to control the southern African peoples in Zimbabwe and Namibia and to control these peoples' independence. The two sides also denounced the aggression against the frontline states.

The Iraqi side expressed its full support for and solidarity with the People's Republic of Mozambique in its legitimate defense against the criminal aggressive acts committed by the racist minority regimes and its unconditional support for strengthening Mozambique's defensive capabilities.

The statement denounces the Pretoria regime for its refusal to implement the UN scheme concerning Namibia's independence and stresses the two countries' full support for the South-West African People's Organization, the Namibian people's sole and legitimate representative. The statement notes that the London conference was the result of the victories achieved by the Zimbabwean people's armed struggle under the Patriotic Front and of the measures taken by the international community to isolate the illegal racist minority regime in southern Rhodesia. The results achieved thus far at the London conference constitute a new triumph for the people of Zimbabwe in the process of Zimbabwe's recovery of its freedom and independence.

The statement calls for making the Indian Ocean and its natural extensions an area of peace, devoid of influence and foreign and imperialist bases, in order to guarantee security and peace for the peoples and countries in the area. The statement stresses that security and stability in the Arab Gulf area is the sole responsibility of the countries of the area, without any foreign intervention. The statement announces the two countries' effective solidarity with the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America, who are struggling against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, fascism and racism--including racial segregation and Zionism--for national independence and social progress.

The statement also stressed the developing countries' right to exercise full, permanent and effective sovereignty over their natural resources, particularly concerning matters pertaining to the manner of exploitation, production, pricing and marketing of these resources.

The statement calls for the continuation of negotiations between developing and developed countries concerning world economic cooperation that will lead to development. These negotiations should consist of practical programs that will allow for a balanced and comprehensive treatment of basic issues and should also be conducted in all fields and at all levels. These negotiations should be held within a set period of time within the framework of the United Nations and with the contribution of all countries.

The statement strongly criticizes threats by some imperialist countries to use food as a weapon against the developing countries and the methods they are using to ration food production and use it as one of the means of pressure.

HUSAYN RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM YAR'S SALIH

JN181253 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 18 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 18 December--Hamid 'Alwan, Iraqi minister of state for foreign affairs, has received a message for President Saddam Husayn from YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The message, which was conveyed by YAR Ambassador in Baghdad Muhammad 'Abdul 'Uthman during a meeting with the Iraqi minister today, deals with bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern.

TANZANIA'S NYERERE ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD ON OFFICIAL VISIT

JN181703 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Dec 79 JN

[Excerpts] At the invitation of Comrade Saddam Husayn, secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command and president of the republic, Julius Kambarage Nyerere, leader of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania and president of the United Republic of Tanzania, arrived in Baghdad at 1600 today at the head of a delegation on an official visit of several days to Iraq.

The Tanzanian president was accorded a grand official reception. President Saddam Husayn was at the head of those who received him. The president then accompanied his guest, President Julius Nyerere, in an official motorcade to the latter's place of residence at Baghdad palace.

AL-AKHBAR CRITICIZES PENTAGON'S MOVE IN GULF, INDIAN OCEAN

JN190907 Amman AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 19 Dec 79 pp 1, 13 JN

[Editorial: "A Mission From the Pentagon"]

[Text] It was announced in Washington yesterday that a mission from the U.S. Defense Department is currently touring the Gulf and the Indian Ocean for talks with the competent authorities of a number of countries on the possibility of deploying U.S. forces in these countries. Reports indicate that the mission has been instructed to conclude special accords rather than treaties between the United States and these countries with regard to the deployment of U.S. troops.

If these reports are true, then the recent speculation by the Arab press on the U.S. intention is true as well. The Arab press has speculated that the United States intends to exploit the crisis of the U.S. hostages in Iran in order to enhance its military position, to tighten its control over the oilfields and routes and to mobilize its fleets. The request made by the United States for help from its friends to besiege, starve and force Iran to its knees is aimed at deploying its fleet in areas adjacent to Iranian ports on the pretext of supervising the required seige.

Once again we warn against playing with fire in an area rich with inflammable oil. Once again we warn against any step that in one way or another and under any circumstances would mean protectionism or military hegemony over any spot in the Middle East.

Israel is the only side that called on the United States to use its occupied ports or to rent the ports already evacuated or about to be evacuated in Sinai. Israel has done so because it is an alien in the area and because it will again if a U.S.-Iranian conflict erupts.

Several Arab Gulf officials have announced that the Arabs, as experiments have proved, are capable of defending their land and oil and that they will never allow any force to perform this task for them. Some Arab Gulf officials have gone even farther and have warned against another world war over to the oil issue.

The crisis of the hostages is now subsiding and there is no room for revenge at the expense of the area's peoples, security and independence. The negotiations to resolve the crisis should continue and the extremely sensitive area should be kept far from the international struggle.

INFORMATION MINISTER RECEIVES PALESTINIAN DELEGATION

JN152112 Doha QNA in Arabic 2055 GMT 15 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 15 December--Jordanian Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah met this afternoon with a Palestinian delegation led by Mahmud 'Abbas, Fatah Central Committee member. The delegation arrived in Amman earlier today.

During this meeting, talks were held on the latest developments in the occupied territory and the work of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian steadfastness committee.

REACTION TO ARRIVAL OF IRANIAN VOLUNTEERS REPORTED

Major Haddad Reacts

NC181127 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 Dec 79 NC

[Text] In reply to the coming of Iranians to Lebanon via Syria and with Syria's approval, Free Lebanon Commander Maj Sa'd Haddad has stated that this is a hostile act in the full sense of the word. This act will absolve us from all previous commitments calling for a cease-fire. We consider this act aimed against us and as a declaration of war against us.

We ask officials in occupied Lebanon, the Lebanese people and national and world public opinion: Is this not convincing proof to everyone that Syria is behind all the tragedies in Lebanon and the primary cause for the war taking place?

If those running the affairs in Lebanon have no freedom to act, speak and make decisions, the United Nations must intervene immediately to help the Lebanese people and save them from the yoke of slavery and stop bloodshed.

Training at Ad-Damur

NC181510 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Dec 79 NC

[Text] We have learned that about 300 Iranian volunteers are currently receiving training in Ad-Damur at the hands of the terrorists. They include a number of Iranian soldiers who had served with the UN Emergency Forces in the south.

A source close to Sami al-Khatib says that he is confident that Salim al-Huss is responsible for encouraging the entry of Iranians into the south and Al-Huss held a series of secret talks with Syrian and Iranian officials for this purpose. He did this after realizing that his position was weak and shaky, that the tide was against him and against his continuing as prime minister because it is impossible to implement the Tunis resolutions.

UN Spokesman Cited

NC181616 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 18 Dec 79 NC

[Excerpts] The question of the dispatch of Iranian volunteers to the south via Syria has aroused great anxiety in security, diplomatic and leadership circles. This is because the move comes just before the renewal of the UN forces mandate and because Israel has warned that it would track down any Iranian wherever he may be in the south. Add to this the threats of Major Haddad.

It has been reported that the president of the republic asked the deterrent forces commander to seek to prevent the entry of any Iranians and to convey this request to the Syrian authorities.

A source at the UN office in Beirut has told the Voice of Lebanon that the UN forces cannot intervene to prevent Iranian infiltration into the south unless they infiltrate into the UN operations area. The source added that intervention outside the area of UN operations would be considered an interference in Lebanon's internal affairs. He said that in the event of an infiltration into or aggression against the UN operations area and UN members, the UN command would take the military or diplomatic steps under its jurisdiction.

Meanwhile, travelers from the south say that the Iranian volunteers who have arrived have been supplied by the Palestinian organizations with cards carrying high military ranks.

VOL Report

NC181828 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 18 Dec 79 NC

[Excerpts] A serious state of emergency prevails in the border area today in the wake of reports of the arrival of Iranian volunteers to fight Israel and imperialism, as they have said, and in the atmosphere of talk about an Israeli threat to intervene in any area in the south to which the Iranians may come. All this comes in the wake of an announcement by Iranian Sheykh Montazeri that the first group of Iranian volunteers left Tehran this morning for Syria. We have received a report indicating that this group consists of 48 recruits, including 10 women. This group will be followed by another which is to arrive in Damascus tomorrow morning. It will consist of 90 Iranians.

According to Montazeri, 500 volunteers will leave Tehran for Syria over the next 2 weeks.

The Voice of Lebanon correspondent reports that when the Iranians deplaned at Damascus airport, they cheered in Persian for the long life of Khomeyni and the Islamic Iranian Revolution. They were then taken to a Palestinian camp near Nab' Buqayn. These Iranians were preceded by 25 who arrived in Syria and have entered Lebanon preparatory to the arrival of additional groups.

Sheykh Montazeri said in this regard that he intends to go to Damascus personally this Friday, indicating that Syria has placed its planes at the disposal of the volunteers. At the same time he denounced the Iranian authorities for refusing to take part in organizing the trips.

In the southern border area, a military spokesman said that Major Haddad's artillery had shelled Ansar airport in An-Nabatiyah district because the fedayeen have been making repairs at the airport for weeks in order to receive the Iranian volunteers.

Sham'un Comments

NC182004 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 18 Dec 79 NC

[Text] The Lebanese Front devoted its discussions today to the questions of the Iranian volunteeers and the situation in the northern area.

After the meeting [former president] Camile Sham'un spoke to correspondents. He said: Today's report about the arrival of some 300 Iranian volunteers in Damascus and about their infiltration (?into the south) naturally has two serious aspects. It will increase the danger of the occurrence of fierce battles in (?Ash-Shuf), and we understand that their arrival has been facilitated so that the Iranian Shi'ite will (?fight) the Lebanese Shi'ite. The Palestinian resistance, which is bringing them in, does not want to clash with the Shi'ites; it prefers that the clashes be between one Shi'ite and another.

Voice of Hope on Arrival

NC190828 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 19 Dec 79 NC

[Text] We will now repeat a report that we broadcast last night: Intelligence sources have told us that the first batch of Iranian volunteers have joined Palestinian saboteurs in the An-Nabatiyah area.

Iranians were seen yesterday on Abu al-Aswad bridge on their way to An-Nabatiyah. Very well-informed sources in Arnum told Free Lebanan of their arrival.

The Lebanese forces have taken all necessary security and defensive measures to confront this new threat to Lebanon in general and to southern Lebanon in particular.

Free Lebanon Commander Major Haddad has stated that he will resist any attack by Palestinian, Syrian or Iranian saboteurs. He said that anyone who aids and abets the Iranians will be considered by Free Lebanon as an enemy of Lebanon and will be punished.

We have learned that Free Lebanon notified UNIFIL of Haddad's warning.

ISRAELI PLANES RECONNOITER PALESTINIAN POSITIONS

NC190713 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 19 Dec 79 NC

[Text] It has been reported from the south that at dawn today Israeli planes and motorized patrols were still reconnoitering Palestinian and leftist positions in the area along the border, especially in the UN operations area.

Major Haddad's artillery continued to pound Ansar airport until late last night to prevent the landing of any volunteers from abroad.

HADDAD'S FORCES SHELL HASBAYYA IN SOUTH

NC190715 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 19 Dec 79

[Text] It has been reported from the south that at 2100 last night the artillery of Maj Sa'd Haddad shelled Hasbayya. Two shells fell near the town in Kurum al-Hawa in the outskirts of ('Ayn al-Khaymah). Powerlines and olive groves were damaged.

This is the first time in 4 months that Haddad's artillery has shelled Hasbayya.

DAMASCUS REPORTS ON SYRIAN-BULGARIAN JOINT STATEMENT

JN171439 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Dec 79 JN

[Text] The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] have affirmed that the separate deals in the separate peace treaty between the Egyptian regime and Israel, which were concluded with the active participation of the United States, are detrimental to the Arabs' just struggle to regain their usurped rights and to the efforts being exerted to establish a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the area.

In a joint statement issued today on the visit of the BCP delegation, headed by BCP Central Committee secretary comrade Petur Dyulgerov, the two parties stongly condemned the Camp David accords and the separate peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. They denounced the current negotiations between the Egyptian regime, Israel and the United States on the so-called self-rule for Palestinians, which will only lead to further Israeli intransigence, continued occupation of the Arab territories and denial of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights.

The two parties stressed that peace cannot be established in the area without a just, lasting and comprehensive solution, based on Israel's total and unconditional withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including Arab Jerusalem, and recognition of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, including their right to return to their land, self-determination and establishment of an independent state in their homeland, Palestine, under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The two sides condemned Israel's continued aggression against Lebanon, its intervention in Lebanon's domestic affairs and its obstruction of the security march.

Regarding international politics, the two sides affirmed the need to exert efforts to consolidate the peace and security of nations, disarmament and international detente. They condemned the decisions of the United States and NATO to deploy medium-range missiles in Western Europe.

The Ba'th Party and the BCP reiterated their support for the liberation movements' legitimate struggle and stressed their solidarity with the African, Asian and Latin American peoples against imperialism and colonialism.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the development of relations between their two parties and countries. They underlined the importance of continuing to consolidate and deepen these relations in the interests of the two peoples and for social progress and world peace.

COMMENTARY ON ISRAELI CABINET DEBATE OF SYRIAN STAND

JN160816 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 16 Dec 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Syria Will Not Be Defeated From Within or Without," the newspaper TISHRIN refers to the Zionist Cabinet session and the announcment that it will study the internal situation in Syria. The paper says:

Israel has informed the world media that the Israeli Cabinet will discuss the internal situation in Syria, its effects on the northern front and the situation in southern Lebanon. Such tendentious news is not usually disseminated at random, but is part of the well-studied psychological war and the comprehensive scheme within the limits of which Israel acts. As known, this scheme is the U.S. scheme to control the Middle East, its oil resources and strategic situation, because the Middle East influences developing countries.

The U.S. scheme in the Middle East has materialized in the Camp David agreements, which are hostile to the Arab nation's interests and rights, to the interests of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and to the United Nations and its resolutions on this area.

The Camp David agreements, behind which the United States has placed all its weight, have brought about a comprehensive Arab-U.S. dispute and have confirmed that the principal contradiction in the area is the one that exists between the Arab nation and its national liberation movement and imperialism and Zionism.

TISHRIN adds: While Syria is now mobilizing forces and capabilities to strengthen national and popular unity and is now seeking the basis and principles for removing all negative aspects in Syria's political life, the Arab nation's enemies are once again resorting to threats, pressures, the escalation of tension and psychological war against Syria. These methods, however, will not have any effect on Syria's determination and will neither weaken its confidence nor make it move back from measures it had taken on the local level, measures which respond to the masses' will and are in harmony with the policy adopted under Al-Asad.

Those who are saying that they will discuss the internal situation in Syria in the Israeli Cabinet session should realize that the Syrians are the only ones who can decide on what is taking place in Syria. Syria, which has confronted the enemy on the outside, will also prove that it cannot be harmed from the inside.

PDRY PARTY DELEGATION ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS 14 DEC

JN142036 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 14 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--A delegation of the Yemeni Socialist Party headed by Comrade Abu Bakr Badhib, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the first province, arrived in Damascus from Beirut today on a visit of several days to Syria at the invitation of the Ba'th Party National Command. During this visit, the guest delegation will meet with comrade officials in the party leadership to coordinate and develop existing relations between the two fraternal parties and countries.

Delegation Departs

JN181706 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Dec 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--The Yemeni Socialist Party delegation under Comrade Abu Bakr Badhib, member of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee and secretary of the first province, left Damascus today at the end of a short visit to Syria. While in Damascus, the visiting delegation held several party and political talks with various members of the party command and popular organizations. The talks aimed at consolidating relations between the two parties and the two fraternal countries. The delegation members also became acquainted with various economic achievements of the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. The party members were seen off by several comrade members of the Foreign Relations Office and the PDRY charge d'affaires in Damascus.

ALGERIA

PAPER WARNS AGAINST 'INTERNATIONALIZING' SAHARA CONFLICT

LD171023 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 11 Dec 79 p 6 LD

[Boukhalfa article: "OAU Appeal and Warning"]

[Text] It is clear that the recommendations put forward by the OAU ad hoc committee, which recently met in Monrovia, are unlikely to comfort Morocco, guilty as it is of aggression against the Saharan people. On the contrary, the setting in motion of the decolonization process as formulated by African heads of state at the conference in the Liberian capital has shown Morocco to be guilty and has defined OAU responsibilities in the search for a just and final solution to a conflict which has endangered stability in the northwest region of Africa. The ad hoc committee reaffirmed that this is a decolonization problem which should be resolved within the framework of the relevant UN and OAU resolutions, adopted in accordance with these international organizations' charters.

Strengthened by these organizations' decisions and the confidence shown in it by the 16th summit, the ad hoc committee members have lucidly analyzed the problem of the Western Sahara's decolonization, formulated decisions which should be favorable received on the continent as a whole and urged "the international community to abstain from any action likely to hinder the work of the ad hoc committee, which has been entrusted with the task of finding a peaceful solution to the Western Sahara problem." This is both an appeal and a warning against any attempt by Morocco to internationalize the conflict and thus jeopardize peace on our continent. Unfortunately, there has been no shortage of examples of foreign intervention in Africa, and it is to prevent any repetition of such crimes by those who have the habit of "threating African problems as their own" that the ad hoc committee's appeal has been made.

In fact, it would be dangerous to throw fat on the fire while the OAU and the United Nations are jointly seeking a solution to the conflict between Morocco and the Saharan people. The Moroccan monarch has tried to enlist the support of foreign powers in various ways. For instance, Rabat has always asserted that Morocco was the victim of aggression and that the present conflict is a conflict between Morocco and Algeria. There are indeed many people ready to listen to Morocco and give it aid on any pretext. Has the United States not taken the dangerous initiative of selling arms to the monarchy? Have foreign powers not directly intervened in the past against the Saharan people on the agressors' side, using very sophisticated equipment? Have some Arab countries not regularly supplied the Royal Armed Forces with arms and ammunition? True, the results achieved on the battlefield have not been equal to expectations, but a great risk was run by these powers--which have at least been condemned by African countries--since the entire continent was threatened as a result with a conflagration with unpredictable consequences.

The ad hoc committee members must therefore warn any power tempted to intervene in any way or manner. The Western Sahara problem calls for a political, that is, peaceful solution. International organizations are doing their utmost to end this conflict, and any foreign intervention will be seen by the continent as a whole and the world community as an act of aggression against this continent and its organizations, which have combined their efforts to complete Africa's decolonization.

BENDJEDID RECEIVES IRAQI PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL ENVOY

LD141459 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 11 Dec 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report: "Iraqi President's Special Envoy"]

[Text] Monday afternoon, Mr Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and party secretary general, received Mr Hashim 'Aqrawi, Iraqi state minister and President Saddam Husayn's special envoy, at the president's office.

During the audience, which took place in the presence of Mr Belkacem Nabi, Central Committee member and minister of energy and petrochemical industries, and the Iraqi ambassador to Algiers, Mr Hashim 'Aqrawi conveyed a message from the Iraqi head of state to President Chadli Bendjedid.

LIBYA

IRANIAN CENTRAL BANK OFFICIAL LEAVES TRIPOLI

LD182130 Tripoli JANA in English 1835 GMT 18 Dec 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, December 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The commissioner of Iran's Central Bank, Mr. Ali Rizk, left Tripoli this (?morning), ending a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

He was seen off at Tripoli international airport by the commissioner of the Libyan Central Bank.

AUTONOMY DELEGATION DEPARTS; BURG INTERVIEWED

TA181205 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 18 Dec 79 TA

[Text] The autonomy delegation is now leaving for Giza, which is near Cairo where its members will meet with the heads of the Egyptian and U.S. delegations. This will be a continuation of the talks Dr Burg and Ambassador Linowitz held in Cairo about a week ago. Our correspondent Dan Eshel reports from Ben-Gurion Airport.

[Eshel--live] The head of the Israeli delegation, Dr Yosef Burg, emerged first. He was the only one who approached the reporters. [begin recording]

[Burg] We have before us the minutes with the working team's recommendations about the elections. In my opinion this has to be approved, and some of the other disputed points should be clarified. We will also have to begin clarifications on how we will set up the administrative council of the autonomy. This is not a simple undertaking and certainly cannot be completed in one session, but I hope we will be able to make progress.

[Question] Dr Burg, how do you regard Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil's statement that Jerusalem is a part of the West Bank?

[Answer] There is nothing new about this, since at Camp David, too, the Egyptians said what they had to say and we said what we had to say. This is one of the things on which we definitely differ. I hope I will have the opportunity to have personal talks and also clarify the meaning of some of the statements made here last week.

[Question] Dr Burg, can one assume that in these deliberations you will already begin shaping the model of the administrative council?

[Answer] We would like to build together what we call a model.

[Question] How is it to operate?

[Answer] We think that if we argue over the matters of principle, we are rather far away [from reaching on agreement], but we believe that if we discuss the practical matters, we can be close. [end recording]

GHALI REQUESTS LIAISON OFFICES IN TERRITORIES

TA182026 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 18 Dec 79 TA

[Text] Egyptian Minister of State Butrus Ghali asked for Israel's agreement today to open Egyptian liaison offices in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip following the establishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and Egypt in 2 months. Ghali made the request during a 2-hour meeting in Cairo with the director of the prime minister's office, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, and with Foreign Ministry Director General Yosef Ciechanover. According to him, these liaison offices will for the first time allow direct contact between Egypt and the Palestinians. These liaison offices would play an important role in persuading the Palestinians to join the negotiations on the autonomy. The Israeli delegation promised to pass the request on to the Israeli Government, Ghali said to correspondents in Cairo.

West Bankers Reject Idea

TA190940 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 19 Dec 79 TA

[Text] Judaea and Samaria mayors have totally rejected the Egyptian idea of opening Egyptian liaison offices in the territories. They told our correspondent Arye Gus that the inhabitants of the area would boycott these offices because they are intended to promote the autonomy plan.

Halhul Mayor Muhammad Milhim says that there is no chance that anyone would cooperate with those offices and even if people do come there they would only do so in secret for fear of the inhabitants' reaction.

Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj said that if Butrus Ghali thinks that he would be able to persuade the Palestinians to join the negotiations process through the liaison offices, he is making a grave mistake. There is nothing in either the form or the content of the peace agreements and the autonomy plan to attract even one Palestinian. Butrus Ghali and Yosef Burg had better apply the Palestinian people's one and only representative--the PLO--directly.

REQUEST FOR CONSULATE IN ALEXANDRIA TURNED DOWN

TA191127 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 19 Dec 79 TA

[Text] Egypt has refused to allow Israel to open a consulate in Alexandria. Our envoy in Cairo Razi Barqa'i has learned that during the last 2 days, in talks between Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali and the director general of the Interior Ministry, it transpired that the Egyptians want the consulate to be located inside the Cairo Embassy building. Israel, on the other hand, in accordance with the spirit of the normalization, wants to open another representation in Alexandria as well. Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, the ambassador designate to Egypt, has told our correspondent that to the best of his knowledge, the ambassadorial exchange between the two countries will take place on time.

LIKUD LOSES ONE MEMBER, GAINS ANOTHER

TA171853 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 17 Dec 79 TA

[Text] Knesset Member Yosef Tamir seceded from the Liberal Party and from the Likud and joined the Knesset Shay faction. He stated he would act together with the Shay movement and with additional members likely to leave the Liberal Party toward forming a new central party. Our correspondent says that former Liberal Party Chairman Elimelekh Rimalt and former Knesset Member Shneur Zalman Abramov are mentioned as likely candidates for leaving the Liberal Party.

Reacting to MK Tamir's withdrawal, Simha Ehrlich said that if Mr Tamir regarded himself to be a proper Liberal, he should return his mandate to the Likud.

A new Likud faction: Knesset Member Asaf Yaguri stated that his faction Ya'ad is joining the Likud and that he will make an official statement to that effect at the Likud Youth Guard conference tonight. According to him, the entry of Ya'ad into the Likud as a faction had already been planned a few weeks ago and agreement in principle was reached a week ago. Today Yaguri was absent from the vote on abortions, explaining he saw no reason to vote against the government when he is about to join the Coalition. Yaguri will most probably become a member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, in lieu of MK Yosef Tamir, who left the Likud today.

EXTREME WEST BANK MAYORS CONTACT PLO HEADQUARTERS

TA191059 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0915 GMT 19 Dec 79 TA

[Text] Jerusalem, 19 Dec--Extremist Judaea and Samaria mayors who belong to the rejectionist front within the terrorist organizations have sent a cable to the Beirut PLO headquarters this week, demanding that it sever all its contacts with Jordan at once. This has been learned by the ITIM Judaea and Samaria correspondent, whose sources were Arabs in East Jerusalem.

It should be noted that these mayors have so far attacked Jordan in their speeches during various rallies and were displeased with the affinity between the Hashemite Kingdom and the PLO. It has further been learned that the rejectionist front, led by the terrorists and the PLO, has objected to this affinity, initiated by terrorist leader Yasir 'Arafat.

Furthermore, the West Bank mayors are currently divided over their affiliation to the terrorist organizations, when most of them are inclined toward the moderate side of the PLO whereas the others belong to the rejectionist front.

WEST BANK WOMEN REQUEST URGENT UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING

TA181651 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 18 Dec 79 TA

[Text] West Bank and Gaza Strip woman's organizations have appealed to the Security Council to convene urgently to discuss the mortal danger that some of the security prisoners face in Israeli prisons. They are also demanding that an international committee be sent to visit the security prisoners in the Israeli jails. Copies of the letter have been sent to Arab national leaders. Other organizations have also signed this memo, including the mayor of Nabulus.

HADDAD ON DEPLOYMENT OF IRANIAN TERRORISTS IN LEBANON

TA180646 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Dec 79 TA

[Excerpt] Last night, Christian militia commander Maj Sa'd Haddad said he had evidence that 300 of the Iranian volunteers had already reached southern Lebanon. Haddad said that they have been deployed in camps near the Lebanese town of An-Nabatiyyah, but he would not give further details.

More Iranians En Route

TA190937 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 19 Dec 79 TA

[Text] Another group of 80 Iranians left Tehran for Damascus this morning. The final destination is Lebanon. It has been reported that there is one girl in the group and that all of the members of the group are in their teens.

Shaykh Montazeri, who is organizing the Iranian volunteers, was to have joined the group to Damascus, but his journey was canceled and no reason was given for this.

BANGLADESH

DACCA DAILY ON U.S.-IRAN HOSTAGE CRISIS

BK181403 Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 4 Dec 79 p 7 BK

[Editorial: "Toward Peaceful Settlement of Hostage Issue"]

[Text] The situation arising from 49 U.S. diplomatic personnel being held as hostage in Iran is currently being debated at a meeting of the UN Security Council requested by UN Secretary General Dr. Kurt Waldheim. The crisis is about four weeks old and Bangladesh fully shares the concern felt by the secretary general that the grave situation that has arisen in the relations between the United States and Iran poses a serious threat to peace and security. Among the strong grounds for an expeditious settlement of the problem is the mounting tension on either side which might imperil not only regional peace and stability but also that of the world. Bangladesh's views as expressed by her representative to UN Security Council reflects this sense of danger and urgency with regard to the Iranian crisis. Bangladesh has recalled the statement of the president of the Security Council of November 9 and his reiteration of the unanimous appeal on behalf of all council members on November 25 urgently asking for the release and protection of diplomatic personnel held as hostage in Iran since November 4.

Bangladesh has signified her cooperation with secretary general's laudable initiative to defuse the critical situation through negotiations and in terms of the principles of the United Nations Charter and international law. For member nations of the Security Council these principles and international law are the ultimate safeguard. In the interest of peace and security, regional and global, crises of the kind that have arisen in U.S.-Iran relations could be solved with an appeal to the UN Charter and sanctions and provisions of international law.

Such a stand is consistent with Bangladesh's commitment to the principles of pacific settlement of disputes, which also is in accord with the Islamic principles of tolerance, compassion, magnanimity, peace and justice. Considering the gravity of the situation the immediate imperative is collective effort by all concerned and exploration of all possible avenues to achieve a peaceful and honourable settlement of the problem. Bangladesh has also taken cognizance of the Iranian allegations about injustice and violation of human rights committed by the previous regime in Iran which deserve to be considered on their own merit. Iran's presence at the Security Council would of course, enable Iran's case to be adequately represented for consideration and pave the way for an increased exchange of views that is believed to help promote the chances of a negotiated settlement of the crisis.

INDIA

MRS GANDHI RAPS COUNTRY'S FOREIGN POLICY

BK180925 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Dec 79 BK

[Text] The Congress-I president, Mrs Gandhi, says that she has no desire to come to power. She only wants the people of India to go ahead in restructuring the country. She was addressing a meeting late last night in Raipur.

Mrs Gandhi charged the Janata Party government with not having solved a single problem of any class or section of the people. She said the Janata Party's single program was to critidize her. She denied the allegation that her party is spending a lot of money for the coming January elections.

Before leaving Raipur, she told newsmen that there are no means of gauging the election prospects and declined to predict her party's prospects in the polls. Referring to the foreign policy of the country, Mrs Gandhi said it has miserably failed. She said even small countries are now threatening India. She added her government had made friendship with different countries, not at the cost of the country's self-respect. She denied the allegation by the Janata Party and other critics that she compromised with Pakistan under pressure from Russia.

CHAIRMAN SINGH RULES OUT COALITION WITH CONGRESS-I

BK180927 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 18 Dec 79 BK

[Text] The Lok Dal president, Mr Charan Singh, has ruled out any possibility of forming a coalition government with the Congress-I after the Lok Sabha elections.

Speaking to newsmen in Hyderabad, Mr Charan Singh made this observation while referring to a reported statement of the party's general secretary, Mr Mauriya, in Bombay that the Lok Dal may join hands with the Congress-I after the elections. Mr Charan Singh said that if Mr Mauriya was reported correctly he would disagree with him. Had there been such a possibility why should I have resigned and why should I have not accepted Mrs Gandhi's condition and withdrawn the notification transferring the case against Mr Sanjay Gandhi from the high court to the supreme court?

OFFICIAL SAYS FREE, FAIR ELECTIONS NOT POSSIBLE IN ASSAM

BK181246 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 18 Dec 79 BK

[Text] The chief electoral officer of Assam, Mr K.S. Rao, says his department is unable to hold a free, fair and peaceful election in the state under the prevailing situation. In an urgent message to the election commission, Mr Rao suggested postponement of the polls in all the 14 Lok Sabha seats to defuse tension in the area. Mr Rao told newsmen in Gauhati that the election machinery in 3 our of the 14 Lok Sabha seats in Assam is in a state of complete collapse because of the antipoll agitation.

AFP: RIVAL FACTIONS OF CONGRESS-I CLASH IN CALCUTTA

BK181718 Hong Kong AFP in English 1716 GMT 18 Dec 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 18 Dec (AFP)--An unknown number of people were injured and hospitalised following a poll clash in Calcutta today between supporters of rival factions of the Congress Party (Indira group) of former Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

Reports quoted a spokesman of the state government of West Bengal (capital Calcutta) as saying that crude bombs were hurled at an election procession taken out by one of the two factions by the other in the incidents.

He said six arrests were made. Police also recovered one pipegun, two exploded bombs and about a dozen rounds of bullets.

Meanwhile, Janata Party today alleged that a "reign of terror" had been let loose against its workers in Balrampur constituency, Uttar Pradesh state, by the local authorities there. The party made a representation to chief election commissioner S.L. Shakdher today in this connection. The government in Uttar Pradesh is controlled by Prime Minister Charan Singh's "Lok Dal" (People's Party).

'MISCREANTS' STONE JAGJIVAN RAM'S HELICOPTER IN UTTAR PRADESH

BK181556 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Dec 79 BK

[Text] Mr Jagjivan Ram's helicopter was heavily stoned by miscreants at (Bamla) in Uttar Pradesh today while the Janata Party leader was addressing a meeting there. Earlier when Mr Jagjivan Ram landed at the helipad, a group of people raised slogans against him.

Addressing a meeting, Mr Jagjivan Ram expressed the fear that the elections might not be fair in Uttar Pradesh. He said attempts have been made to disturb his meetings a number of times. PTI [Press Trust of India] says as a result of the stoning, the pilot had to take off without Mr Jagjivan Ram who later left (Bamla) by road.

PAKISTAN

PRESIDENTIAL ORDINANCE PROHIBITS DEFAMATORY PUBLICATIONS

BK190528 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Dec 79 BK

[Text] A presidential ordinance has been promulgated to give protection to the citizens against the publication of defamatory matter. The ordinance amends Sections 499 and 500 of the Pakistan penal code and the second schedule of the criminal procedures code. The effect of the amendment will be that with the exception of the publication of report of court proceedings, the publication of defamatory matter against any person even if it is true and is in the public interest will constitute a cognizable and compoundable offence punishable with 5 years' reigorous imprisonment or fine or both.

AGHA SHAHI TO VISIT KABUL 22 DECEMBER

BK171530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 17 Dec 79 BK

[Text] An official announcement in Islamabad states that the adviser on foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi, is to leave for Kabul on Saturday [22 December] on a 2-day visit, at the invitation of the Afghan foreign minister, Mr Shah Wali.

STUDENTS DEMAND REMOVAL OF SIND UNIVERSITY OFFICIAL

BI181538 Hong Kong AFP in English 1420 GMT 18 Dec 79 BK

[Text] Karachi 18 Dec (AFP)--Police fired teargas shells and used baton charges to disperse a rowdy student procession from Sind University at Jamshoro, about 160 kilometres (100 miles) from here today. The stone throwing students were demonstrating in support of their demand for removal of the university Vice Chancellor Shaykh Mubarak Ayaz and re-admission of 12 students who were restricted from the university. The students have already boycotted their classes for the last two days.

A donkey inscribed with the words "I am vice chancellor--spit upon me" was heading the slogan-chanting demonstrators.

SRI LANKA

JAYEWARDENE, PREMADASA ADDRESS RULING PARTY SESSION

BK151641 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 15 Dec 79 BK

[Text] The president of Sri Lanka has said that it is the proper combination of socialism and democracy which will insure the creation of a society which will help in the advancement of the common man.

Addressing the 26th annual session of the United National Party [UNP] in Colombo tdoay, President Jayewardene said that unlike in the past, there was a stable political philosophy of creating a free and virtuous society based on democratic socialist principles. This was a difficult task and the various organizations of the party had a vital role to play in the achievement of this objective.

The new constitution enshrined and insured that freedom of political parties to function without hindrance while safeguarding the rights of the people. They inherited an economy in which 60 percent of the ownership were in the hands of the public sector. It was not intended to hand over the administration to private individuals, but there would be a broad basing of public ownership, eradication of corruption and increasing the efficiency of these institutions for the benefit of the people.

The president reminded those present that compared to other nations where some were completely socialist, the freedoms of democracy were provided only in two or three developing countries including Sri Lanka. He called for a renewed effort on the part of members to strengthen the organization.

Speaking about the OPEC petition, President Jayewardene said that this drew the attention to two factors: One was the problems faced by developing countries due to rise in oil prices, and the other was for the people to know that oil prices inevitably led to rises in the cost of living.

He said that shortcomings of the government must be criticized, not with a view to sabotage but to strengthen it. Corruption must also be exposed. He said that it was because of their straightforward and sincere nature that he was able, without fear, to move among the people. The party had an enviable record since its inception and the issue of free textbooks was another proud achievement. He said that, hereafter, selection of members of parliament for election would be on a party basis and therefore their conduct and principle was an important factor.

The prime minister, Mr R. Premadasa, spoke at length on the party organization. He said that we must take note of the fact that it was the vast silent majority which was watching their conduct, service, use of power and justice and fair play which decided on the government of their choice at each election.

Mr Premadasa said that in 1983, 1 million more will enter the electoral roll registers and they must look at these matters in the correct perspective. He said that the entire electorate, compared to other countries, was politically conscious and intelligent and used their votes judiciously.

The president of the party, Mr N.G.P. Panditharatne, several ministers and about 11,000 delegates were present on the occasion.